# JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE

Court, Position, and Seat # for which you are applying: Circuit Court, At-Large, Seat 8.

1. NAME:

Ms. Stephanie Pendarvis McDonald

**BUSINESS ADDRESS:** 

Senn, McDonald & Leinbach, LLC

3 Wesley Drive

Charleston, SC 29407

E-MAIL ADDRESS:

stephanie@smllawfirm.com

**TELEPHONE NUMBER:** 

(office): (843) 556-4045

2. Date of Birth:

1969

Place of Birth:

Columbia, South Carolina

3. Are you a citizen of South Carolina? Yes.

Have you been a resident of this state for at least the immediate past five years? Yes.

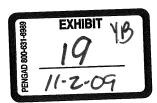
- 5. Family Status: Divorced on September 21, 2007, Ninth Judicial Circuit Family Court, Sate of South Carolina. One year's separation. Ms. McDonald was the moving party. One child.
- 6. Have you served in the military? No.
- 7. List each college and law school you attended, including the dates of your attendance, the degrees you received, and if you left an institution without receiving a degree, the reason for your departure.
  - (a) University of South Carolina Honors College 1987-91
    Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy and English, Magna cum Laude, with Honors from South Carolina College, May 1991
  - (b) University of South Carolina School of Law 1991-94 *Juris Doctor*, May 1994
- 8. List the states in which you have been admitted to practice law and the year of each admission. Also list any states in which you took the bar exam but were never admitted to the practice of law. If you took the bar exam more than once in any of the states listed, please indicate the number of times you took the exam in each state.

South Carolina - Admitted to practice in 1994

I have taken only the South Carolina Bar exam (once).

9. List the significant activities in which you took part during your attendance at college, graduate, and law school. Give the dates you were involved in these activities and list any leadership positions you held.

- College:
- (a) Carolina Cares, USC's Philanthropic Organization (1988-91) President (1990-91)
- (b) Alpha Delta Pi Sorority (1987-present) President (1990-91)
- (c) Student Alumni Association (1989-91)



- (d) Secretary/Treasurer (1990-91)
- (e) Interclub Council (1989-91)
- (f) Secretary/Treasurer (1989-90)
- (g) USC Community Service Programs Advisory Board (1990-91)
- (h) Assistant Student Advocate (Student Government) (1989-90)
- (i) Campus Judicial Board (1990-91)
- (j) Hurricane Hugo Relief (Salvation Army) (1989)
- (k) Association of Honors Students (1987-1991)
- (I) Mortar Board (1989-91)
- (m) Omicron Delta Kappa (1990-91)
- (n) Order of Omega (1989-91)

### Law School:

- (a) Senate Judiciary Committee Law Clerk, 1992-94
- (b) Moot Court: (1992-94)
- (c) Finalist (Argued before the S.C. Supreme Court 1993)
- (d) Order of the Barristers (1993-94)
- (e) Captain, Craven Moot Court Team (1994)
- (f) Law School *Pro Bono* Board (1992-94)
- (g) Vice-President (1993-94)
- (h) Volunteer, Richland County Guardian ad Litem Project (1993-94)
- Describe your continuing legal or judicial education during the past five years.
   Include only the title and date of any continuing legal or judicial education course completed.

Conference/CLE Name		Date(s)
(a)	"Domestic Violence and the Criminal Justice System"	07/09/2009;
(b)	"It's All a Game – Top Trial Lawyers Tackle Evidence"	02/13/2009;
(c)	South Carolina Bar Convention 24th Annual	
	Criminal Law Update Seminar	01/23/2009;
(d)	SCIRF Law Enforcement Defense Seminar	10/3/2008;
(e)	Federal Bar Association Ethics Seminar	09/11/2008;
(f)	Training - Commission on Judicial Conduct	09/2008;
(g)	South Carolina Trial Lawyers Annual Convention CLEs	08/3/2008;
(h)	Chief Justice Toal's Ethics/Baseball Seminar	07-08/2008;
(i)	SCIRF Law Enforcement Defense Seminar	10/05/2007;
(j)	Chief Justice Toal's Ethics/Baseball Seminar	07/12/2007;
(k)	SCIRF Law Enforcement Defense Seminar	11/17/2006;
(I)	"Steroids and the Ethics of Baseball"	08/12/2006;
(m)	South Carolina Trial Lawyers Annual Convention CLEs	08/3/2006;
(n)	SCIRF Law Enforcement Defense Seminar	9/30/2005;
(o)	U.S. District Court Electronic Filing System CLE	05/03/2005
(p)	"Police Indiscretion: Litigation and Liability"	02/15/2005;
(q)	SCIRF Law Enforcement Defense Seminar	10/1/2004;
(r)	Revised Lawyers Oath Seminar	10/1/2004;
(s)	"Nursing Home Malpractice in South Carolina"	09/24/2004;

- (t) FBA's "Federal Practice in the District of South Carolina"09/10/2004;
- (u) "U.S. Supreme Court Review"

07/22/2004.

- 11. Have you taught law-related courses or lectured at bar association conferences, educational institutions, or continuing legal or judicial education programs? Yes.
  - (a) In 2006, I spoke at the Insurance Reserve Fund's Law Enforcement Defense Seminar (CLE) on recent developments in constitutional law and the changing composition of the Fourth Circuit and the United States Supreme Court.
  - (b) At the 2004 South Carolina Conference of Countywide Elected Officials (SCACEE Conference), I spoke about the operation of South Carolina's Freedom of Information Act and provided an update on recent South Carolina cases impacting countywide elected officials.
  - (c) In June of 2003, I taught a one-hour session at the South Carolina Defense Trial Lawyers' Trial Academy. I believe it was on cross-examination, but I honestly cannot remember.
  - (d) I presented the "Ethics" portion for the 2001 Charleston Lawyers Club Law Week CLE. The topic was "Ten Ways to Avoid the Office of Disciplinary Counsel and Tips for Handling that Dreaded Letter."
  - (f) At the 2000 Conference for Attorneys to Assist Disciplinary Counsel, I provided an investigation checklist for Attorneys to Assist and spoke on how to conduct a thorough investigation.
  - (g) In 1998, I spoke at the American Bar Association's Affiliate Outreach Seminar in Las Vegas. The presentation was about the South Carolina Bar Young Lawyer's Division's "Lawyers as Mentors" project and provided instruction for other YLDs interested in starting similar programs in their states.
  - (h) In 1997, I spoke at the American Bar Association's Affiliate Outreach Seminar in Tampa. The presentation was about the South Carolina Bar Young Lawyer's Division's "Citizenship in Schools" project and provided instruction for other YLDs interested in starting similar programs in their states.
- 12. List all published books and articles you have written and give citations and the dates of publication for each.

Co-author, Recent Developments in Government Operations and Liability Law: Annual Update on Public Official Immunities, The Urban Lawyer, 1997

- 13. List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice and list the dates of your admission. Give the same information for administrative bodies that require a special admission to practice.
  - (a) Admitted to practice before the State Courts of South Carolina in 1994;
  - (b) Admitted to practice before the United States District Court for the District of South Carolina; and

- (c) Admitted to practice before the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit.
- 14. Describe chronologically your legal experience since graduation from law school and include a list of all law firms with which you have been associated. Describe the general character of your practice and divide it into periods with dates if its character has changed over the years.

Stuckey & Senn: August 1994 through June 1997:

After taking the Bar exam, I worked as an associate at Stuckey & Kobrovsky in Charleston. This firm later became Stuckey & Senn. Although this was a general practice, and I worked on some probate matters and business litigation, my primary areas of work involved constitutional and governmental issues. The first three cases that I tried on my own involved constitutional claims in United States District Court.

I became quite ill while pregnant with my only child and was forced to take a two-month leave of absence for home intravenous treatments. Upon my return to work in August of 1997, I decided to go out on my own and focus on the handling of appellate matters for several law firms. I maintained this solo practice from August of 1997 through approximately 2003. During this time period, I handled appeals for:

- (a) Stuckey Law Firm
- (b) Sandra J. Senn, P.A.
- (c) Clawson & Staubes
- (d) Rhoad Law Firm (Bamberg)
- (e) Padgett Law Firm (Bennettsville)
- (f) Jennings and Harris (Bennettsville)
- (g) Jay Ervin (Darlington)

I also did other work for:

- (a) Jove Law Firm
- (b) David Whittington
- (c) Robert Gailliard
- (d) John Price Law Firm
- (e) E. Bart Daniel
- (f) J. Brady Hair
- (g) Larry Kobrovsky
- (h) Stanley Feldman

The bulk of my work during this time period, however, was with Sandy Senn, with whom I have worked since graduating from law school. We continued to try cases together until forming the firm of Senn, McDonald & Leinbach, LLC, where I am currently the managing partner.

My current practice focuses on a variety of appellate matters and the defense of public officials, law enforcement agencies, state agencies, and local governments, and state in state and federal courts. I also handle some trial level cases for plaintiffs, primarily in the field of employment discrimination and

harassment, but I estimate that about 70% of my practice is in the area of civil defense.

(b) If you are a candidate for Circuit Court, please provide a brief written description of your experience in criminal matters, including any cases handled over the past five years and include a brief description of the issues involved. Further, please provide a brief written description of your experience in civil matters, including any cases handled over the past five years and include a brief description of the types of matters handled, issues involved, and procedural history. Please include information such as the primary areas in civil court in which you practice, whether you represent plaintiffs or defendants, or both. You may go back further than five years if you feel it would assist the Commission with its assessment of your experience. If you lack experience in an area, describe how your background has prepared you to preside over such matters as a Circuit Court Judge, or how you would compensate for your lack of experience in this area.

Although my practice has focused on civil defense, the areas in which I have worked will assist with the duties required of a judge in General Sessions Court as well. I have practiced constitutional law for fifteen (15) years, working on cases involving allegations of illegal search and seizure, violation of the right to counsel, *Brady* violations and the requirements of Rule 5, entrapment, lack of probable cause, and other interesting claims.

I have tried over forty (40) cases as either lead counsel or cocounsel, and our work requires that I remain cognizant of decisions in the areas of constitutional and criminal law. In addition, I have personally handled at least thirty-five (35) appeals, and I have assisted attorneys at other firms with at least fifteen (15) others.

In order to gain experience in the more procedural areas of criminal law,

I have attended CLEs involving topics of criminal prosecution and defense, and I recently volunteered to serve as a prosecutor for the Attorney General's Criminal Domestic Violence task force. Since our firm serves as counsel for the South Carolina Sheriffs' Association, I have also had the honor of working with Sheriffs from all across the State of South Carolina.

I have represented juveniles in Family Court as both appointed defense counsel and as a Guardian ad Litem, and I believe that the administrative skills gained through my community service leadership will assist with docket management and control. I currently represent a young lady charged by a municipality with "unlawful assembly." As I believe that the town ordinance which she is alleged to have violated is unconstitutional, I am very much looking forward to representing her in municipal court in the next few months.

Finally, as my law partner is a member of the Attorney General's Dogfighting Task Force, in 2004, I was able to assist with the "custody trial" following the confiscation of 47 abused dogs from David Ray Tant, one of the nation's worst offenders in the area of dogfighting. We tried the forfeiture/custody case in Charleston County, but Tant's criminal trial was held in Greenwood. Two days into his jury trial, Tant pled guilty to several of the charges against him and was sentenced to thirty (30) years in prison. Subsequently, our firm has worked on other cases for the Task Force.

I have handled a variety of civil matters over the past five years. Five of these are discussed in detail in response to question 19. Some others include:

- (a) Hamilton v. Charleston County Sheriff's Office, Charleston County (June 2009): This case involved allegations of negligent hiring and negligent supervision of an employee of the Charleston County Detention Center. After a four-day trial this past June, we received a directed verdict on all causes of action. The case is currently on appeal.
- (b) Brown v. County of Berkeley, Berkeley County (2004-2009): In this case, the Berkeley County Clerk of Court sued the former County Supervisor, the members of County Council, and the County for defamation and a variety of other causes of action after the County called for a special audit pursuant to S.C. Code Section 4-9-150. Plaintiff also sought a TRO to stop the special audit. Plaintiff appealed the denial of the motion for injunctive relief, but the South Carolina Supreme Court affirmed. See Brown v. County of Berkeley, 366 S.C. 354, 622 S.E.2d 533 (2005). Defendants were granted summary judgment on all causes of action this year.
- (c) Bynum v. South Carolina Dept. of Corrections: Sandy Senn and I tried this medical malpractice case for seven (7) days in Clarendon County in 2006. The jury returned an \$825,000.00 verdict for the plaintiff, reduced by 40% for the plaintiff's comparative negligence.
- (d) Mills v. City of North Charleston (2004): Plaintiff was arrested for attempting to solicit an undercover officer, but following his claim that he was entrapped, the charges were dropped. A subsequent civil rights claim followed. After Judge Houck ruled that the tape of the incident would be admitted for purposes of the Motion for Summary Judgment and any subsequent trial, the plaintiff took a voluntary dismissal.
- (e) <u>Davis v. South Carolina Dept. of Corrections</u>, U.S. District Court (2007). This case alleged medical malpractice and constitutional

- rights violations. It was settled following the submission of the summary judgment memoranda.
- (f) Sunset Cay v. City of Folly Beach, 357 S.C. 414, 593 S.E.2d 462 (2004).
  - This was a declaratory judgment action seeking to require Folly Beach to provide sewer service to a remote property. The Honorable A. Victor Rawl dismissed the case, Sunset Cay appealed, and the S.C. Supreme Court affirmed.
- of this case, which involved a landowner's claim that a certain street had not been properly dedicated to Folly Beach back in the 1930s. In an unpublished opinion, the South Carolina Court of Appeals affirmed the Master's ruling for the City. Plaintiff has petitioned for certiorari to the S.C. Supreme Court.
- (h) Jamison v. Ford Motor Company, 373 S.C. 248, 644 S.E.2d 755 (Ct. App. 2007), cert. granted (July 10, 2008). I was retained at the post-trial motions stage to represent the plaintiffs in this products liability matter. Plaintiffs' daughter was killed in a 15 mile-per-hour accident when the seatbelt that was supposed to protect her lacerated her liver. The jury returned a verdict for the defendant, and the South Carolina Court of Appeals affirmed. The South Carolina Supreme Court has granted certiorari, and the case will be argued in September.

These are just a few of the cases that I have handled over the past five years. I am happy to provide additional information should the Commission need it.

- 15. What is your rating in Martindale-Hubbell? BV
- 16. What was the frequency of your court appearances during the last five years?
  - (a) federal:
- 1-2 times per month;
- (b) state:
- 5-7 times per month, unless we were in trial.
- 17. What percentage of your practice involved civil, criminal, and domestic matters during the last five years?
  - (a) civil:
- 90%;
- (b) criminal:
- 5% (generally municipal court or magistrate's court);
- (c) domestic:
- 5% (appellate matters and appointed DSS cases).
- 18. What percentage of your practice in trial court during the last five years involved matters that went to a jury, including those that settled prior to trial?
  - (a) jury:
- 95%;
- (b) non-jury:
- 5%.

Did you most often serve as sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel in these matters?

I generally serve as sole counsel or co-counsel with another of my law partners.

- 19. List five of the most significant litigated matters you have personally handled in either trial or appellate court or before a state or federal agency. Give citations if the cases were reported and describe why these matters were significant.
  - Erickson v. Winner, Charleston County Court of Common Pleas (March (a) 2006). This case arose from the "Domestic Court Reform Movement" that took place in South Carolina in the early 1990s. The plaintiff, a former Dorchester County Guardian ad Litem, sued a number of defendants following the issuance of "The Winner Report," which offered a scathing view of South Carolina's private Guardian ad Litem system. A lengthy article in the Charleston City Paper followed the issuance of the report, and the plaintiff subsequently sued several defendants for defamation and other torts. My law partner and I represented the South Carolina Governor's GAL Office and a county office supervisor, receiving a directed verdict on all causes of action after three weeks of trial. Following the fourth week of trial, the jury returned a 6.5 million dollar verdict against several of the remaining The subsequent appeal against our clients has been defendants. I now represent two of the co-defendants who have dismissed. appealed the verdict.
  - (b) Pelaccio v. Charleston County Sheriff's Office, Berkeley County Court of Common Pleas (April 2005). This wrongful death action arose after a father held his infant hostage and threatened to kill the child and blow up the family's home. He also threatened several members of law enforcement responding to the scene. After an all-night stand-off, the father emerged from the house, holding a knife to the baby's neck. When he refused to remain in a location safe for the Charleston County SWAT team to retrieve the baby from the porch, a police sniper shot him in order to ensure the safety of the child and the officers on the scene. We were honored to represent the Charleston County Sheriff's Office in this matter, and after a four-day trial, the jury returned a defense verdict.
  - (c) Cowsert v. Brown, Charleston County Court of Common Pleas (April 2006). My law partner and I represented the plaintiffs in this matter, which arose after Betty Sue Cowsert fell from the elevated, second-story porch of her Folly Beach home. The contractor who built the Cowsert home had failed to secure a portion of the porch railing in any way it was not nailed, glued, or secured to the main railing area. When the railing gave way, Mrs. Cowsert fell, suffering serious injuries. Following the four-day trial, the jury returned a significant verdict for the plaintiffs.
  - (d) <u>Gregory v. Zumalt</u>, U.S. District Court, Charleston Division (February 2007). This highly-publicized case arose after an officer with the City of North Charleston shot a man threatening officers with a knife and a screwdriver. The screwdriver had been sharpened to resemble an

icepick. After threatening an eight-months pregnant Piggly Wiggly cashier with the knife, the suspect led the officers across a busy parking lot and Rivers Avenue. He refused to drop the weapons and stabbed one of the officers in the chest, puncturing his shirt and vest. After repeated verbal commands to drop the weapons, the suspect charged the officers and was shot. The decedent's family subsequently filed a civil rights suit, alleging that the officers had violated the decedent's constitutional rights and committed excessive force against him. Following a five-day trial, the Honorable P. Michael Duffy granted all defendants judgment as a matter of law on all causes of action. The Fourth Circuit affirmed Judge Duffy's decision without oral argument. See Gregory v. Zumalt, 294 Fed.Appx. 792, 2008 WL 4410375 (4th Cir. Sept. 26, 2008)(unpublished)

- (e) The City of Charleston "Sofa Super Fire" aftermath:
  My law partner and I represent the City of Charleston in the matters arising from this tragic 2007 fire which took the lives of nine Charleston firefighters. This work has involved numerous matters, including representation during the SC-OSHA investigation, before the OSHA hearing officer, and throughout the investigations conducted by various federal agencies and law enforcement entities. Currently, our firm is opposing the attempts by two of the co-defendants to join the City of Charleston as a defendant in the plaintiffs' nine pending lawsuits. (Workers' Compensation benefits have previously been paid, and numerous sections of the Tort Claims Act and the South Carolina Contribution among Tortfeasors Act bar the suit against the City). Motions have been argued and the judge currently has the matter under advisement.
- 20. List up to five civil appeals you have personally handled. Give the case name, the court, the date of decision, and the citation if the case was reported
  - (a) Henry v. Horry County, 334 S.C. 461, 514 S.E.2d 122 (1999).
  - (b) <u>Brown v. Daniel</u>, 230 F.3d 1351, 2000 WL 1455443 (4<sup>th</sup> Cir. Sept. 9, 2000)(unpublished opinion).
  - (c) Mentavlos v. Anderson, 249 F.3d 301 (4<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2001), cert. denied, 534 U.S. 952 (Oct. 9, 2001).
  - (d) <u>Sunset Cay v. City of Folly Beach</u>, 357 S.C. 414, 593 S.E.2d 462 (2004).
  - (e) <u>Jamison v. Ford Motor Company,</u> 373 S.C. 248, 644 S.E.2d 755 (Ct. App. 2007), (July 10, 2008).
- 21. List up to five criminal appeals that you have personally handled. Give the case name, the court, the date of decision and the citation if the case was reported. If you are a candidate for an appellate court judgeship (please attach one copy of briefs filed by you in each matter).
  - (a) <u>United States v. Luther Ray Cyrus,</u> 132 Fed.Appx. 441 (4<sup>th</sup> Cir. May 24, 2005) (for attorney Jay Ervin)

- (b) <u>United States v. Dalton</u>, 477 F.3d 195 (4<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2007) (I assisted attorney Stanley Feldman with his preparation of the brief and for oral argument).
- 22. Have you ever held judicial office? No.
- 23. If the answer to question 22 is yes, describe or list five of your most significant orders or opinions and give the citations if they were reported. Also list citations to any appellate review of these orders or opinions.

Not applicable.

24. Have you ever held public office other than judicial office? I have not elected held public office, but I have been appointed by the South Carolina Supreme Court to positions affiliated with the Office of Disciplinary Counsel. From 1999-2002, I served as an Attorney to Assist Disciplinary Counsel. In January of 2003, I was appointed to the South Carolina Commission on Judicial Conduct. I am currently serving my second term on the Commission.

As I have not filed reports with the State Ethics Commission during these terms of service, I recently contacted Counsel to the Commission, Debbie McKeown, to confirm that I am not in violation of the State Ethics Laws. Her contact number is (803) 734-1965 if Commission Counsel or members of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission need further information.

- 25. List all employment you had while serving as a judge (whether full-time or parttime, contractual or at will, consulting or otherwise) other than elected judicial office. Specify your dates of employment, employer, major job responsibilities, and supervisor. Not applicable.
- 26. Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office? No.
- 27. Have you ever been engaged in any occupation, business, or profession other than the practice of law, teaching of law, or holding judicial or other public office? No, other than jobs in high school and college.
- 28. Are you now an officer or director or involved in the management of any business enterprise?

I currently sit on the Board of Directors for the Junior League of Charleston, Inc. This is a non-profit organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, improving the community, and developing the potential of women. My current term expires on May 30, 2010.

- 29. A complete, current financial net worth statement was provided to the Commission.
- 30. Describe any financial arrangements or business relationships you have, or have had in the past, that could constitute or result in a possible conflict of interest in the position you seek.

I am a Partner at Senn, McDonald & Leinbach, LLC, and pursuant to Canon 2 and Canon 3E, I would recuse myself from any matters involving my former law firm or law partners.

- 31. Have you ever been arrested, charged, or held by federal, state, or other law enforcement authorities for violation or for suspicion of violation of any federal law or regulation, state law or regulation, or county or municipal law, regulation, or ordinance, or any other law, including another country's law?
- 32. Have you, to your knowledge, ever been under federal, state, or local investigation for possible violation of a criminal statute? No.
- 33. Has a tax lien or other collection procedure ever been instituted against you by federal, state, or local authorities? Have you ever defaulted on a student loan? Have you ever filed for bankruptcy? No.
- 34. Have you ever been sued, either personally or professionally, that is, have you ever been named as defendant or respondent in any court of law?
  - No. A *pro se* plaintiff attempted to sue me in 1996, after I successfully defended his case against the Charleston County Sheriff and various other governmental defendants. The Honorable Robert S. Carr, United States Magistrate Judge, dismissed the case as frivolous on pre-screening and did not authorize service of process.
- 36. Are you now or have you ever been employed as a "lobbyist," as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(13), or have you acted in the capacity of a "lobbyist's principal," as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(14)? No.
- 37. Since filing with the Commission your letter of intent to run for judicial office, have you accepted lodging, transportation, entertainment, food, meals, beverages, money, or any other thing of value as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(1) from a lobbyist or lobbyist's principal? No.
- 38. S.C. Code § 8-13-700 provides, in part, that "[n]o public official, public member, or public employee may knowingly use his official office, membership, or employment to obtain an economic interest for himself, a member of his immediate family, an individual with whom he is associated, or a business with which he is associated." Please detail any knowledge you have of any formal charges or informal allegations against you or any other candidate for violations of these provisions. Not applicable.
- 39. S.C. Code § 8-13-765 provides, in part, that "[n]o person may use government personnel, equipment, materials, or an office building in an election campaign." Please detail any knowledge you have of any formal charges or informal allegations against you or any other candidate for violations of these provisions. Not applicable.
- 40. Itemize (by amount, type, and date) all expenditures, other than those for travel and room and board, made by you, or on your behalf in furtherance of your candidacy for the position you seek.

In June, I purchased stationary for \$84.00.

41. List the amount and recipient of all contributions made by you or on your behalf to members of the General Assembly since the announcement of your intent to seek election to a judgeship.

I have made no contributions since the announcement of my intent to seek election.

- 42. Have you directly or indirectly requested the pledge of any member of the General Assembly as to your election for the position for which you are being screened? Have you received the assurance of any public official or public employee that they will seek the pledge of any member of the General Assembly as to your election for the position for which you are being screened? No.
- 43. Have you requested a friend or colleague to contact members of the General Assembly on your behalf? If so, give details. Are you aware of any friends or colleagues contacting members of the General Assembly on your behalf?
  - No. Friends or colleagues have introduced me to members of the General Assembly at several events, but I have not requested that they contact members of the General Assembly on my behalf.
- 44. Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf solicited or collected funds to aid in the promotion of your candidacy? No.
- 45. Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf contacted members of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission about your candidacy or intention to become a candidate? No.
- 46. List all bar associations and professional organizations of which you are a member and give the titles and dates of any offices you have held in such groups.
  - (a) South Carolina Bar Association

Positions held for the Young Lawyers Division:

Chair, Law School for Non-Lawyers project (1998)

Co-Chair, Lawyers as Mentors project (1997)

Chair, "Citizenship in Schools" project at Fraser Elementary School (1996)

Co-Chair, Lawyers for Literacy project (1995)

Delegate, American Bar Association Annual Meeting (Young Lawyers Division), San Francisco (Summer 1997)

- (b) Charleston County Bar Association
- (c) Charleston Lawyers Club (1994-2004) President, 1998-1999
- (d) Federal Bar Association
- (e) Former member of American Bar Association
- 47. List all civic, charitable, educational, social, and fraternal organizations of which you are or have been a member during the past five years and include any offices held in such a group, any professional honors, awards, or other forms of recognition received and not listed elsewhere.
  - (a) Board Member, South Carolina Bar Foundation, 1998-2001
  - (b) Board Member, Association of Junior Leagues International, Inc. New York, NY (June 2006 June 2009)
  - (c) President-Elect, Junior League of Charleston, June 2009 present

- (This is my fourth term on the Board of Directors since 2000.)
- (d) Commissioner, City of Charleston Mayor's Office for Children, Youth & Families (2000-03)
- (e) Chair and Parliamentarian, 120<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of South Carolina (Spring 2004)
- (f) President, St. Philip's Episcopal Church Women (ECW) (1993-94)
- (g) Member, City of Charleston Leadership Team, National League of Cities Municipal Leadership in Education Project (2001-03)
- (h) Board Member, Youth Service Charleston (2001-03)
- (i) Graduate, Leadership Charleston Class of 2001
- (j) Youth Mentor, Mitchell Elementary School (1998-2001)
- (k) Advisory Board, Charleston County School District Parenting Center, District #20 (2000-01)

#### Honors:

- (a) Junior League of Charleston Community Impact Award (2002) Law School:
- (a) American Jurisprudence Award for Evidence
- (b) American Jurisprudence Award for Moot Court
- (c) First Year Section Legal Writing Award
- (d) Order of the Barristers

## Undergraduate:

- (a) Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award
- (b) Phi Beta Kappa
- (c) Mortar Board Graduate Fellowship
- (d) Dorothy Shaw Leadership Award (National Sorority Award)
- (e) USC Hall of Leaders
- (f) Josiah Morse Award for Philosophy
- 48. Provide any other information that may reflect positively or negatively on your candidacy, or which you believe should be disclosed in connection with consideration of you for nomination for the position you seek.

My daughter, Susanne, starred as "Scout" in the Charleston Stage production of "To Kill a Mockingbird" this past February. Watching her in that role - - and watching the character of Atticus Finch multiple times in a three-week period reaffirmed for me the knowledge that treating others fairly, with impartiality, with integrity, and with dignity is critical to the practice of law and our judicial system. These are characteristics that I would like to bring to the bench. If elected, I plan to be a judge known for her good temperament, patience, scholarship, work ethic, and willingness to make a decision.

Service has been an important part of my life for as long as I can remember, and I can think of nothing that I would rather do than serve the people of South Carolina in this position.

## 49. References:

(a) The Honorable J. Al Cannon, Jr. Charleston County Sheriff

3505 Pinehaven Drive North Charleston, SC 29405 (843) 202-1700

- (b) The Honorable Joseph P. Riley, Jr. Mayor, City of Charleston
   P.O. Box 652
   Charleston, SC 29402
   (843) 577-6970
- (c) J. Brady Hair City Attorney City of North Charleston 7741 Dorchester Road North Charleston, SC 29418 (843) 572-8700
- (d) Amy L. Gaffney Gaffney, Lewis & Edwards, LLC 3710 Landmark Drive, Suite 304 Columbia, SC 29204 (803) 223-9745
- (e) Betty Maxey
  Wachovia Bank N.A.
  Balance Confirmation Services
  P.O. Box 40028
  Roanoke, VA 24022-7313
  (540) 563-7323

A letter from Wachovia is attached with this packet.

YOUR SIGNATURE WILL BE HELD TO CONSTITUTE A WAIVER OF THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF ANY PROCEEDING BEFORE A GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE OR ANY INFORMATION CONCERNING YOUR CREDIT.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT MY ANSWERS ARE TRUE AND COMPLETE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.

Signature: Stephanie Pendarvis McDonald

Date: August 13, 2009